



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

Hampshire West County

# Where adventures begin



County Report 2013



# Go Girlguiding Hampshire West!

Welcome to Girlguiding Hampshire West's report for 2013. It was a busy year and one we can be proud of for our many achievements.

## Taking Centre Stage

One of the highlights of the year was Perform, a singing competition that saw more than 50 of our girls entering the County auditions. The standard was extremely high and judging was very difficult. The winners in each category were:-

### 9-12yrs

**Emma Hardy** 1st Hordle Guides,  
Hurst Castle Division

### 13-16yrs

**Amealia Dufty** 1st Broadoak Guides,  
Itchen Valley Division

### 17-25yrs

**Siobhan Hogan** Paradox SS, Southampton  
Central Division

Siobhan went on to win the Region heats and performed live on stage at Shine along with JLS and in front of several thousand girls!



## Decorating Ruby

The County was pleased to support Marwell's Go! Rhino conservation project by taking part in the mass public arts trail that was held in Southampton. Every girl across the County was encouraged to help decorate our rhino, Ruby. To help raise awareness of the project, over 600 girls and their Leaders from all sections visited Marwell Wildlife to see the animals, particularly the rhinos, up close. Ruby the Rhino now spends her time visiting different units as part of the Go! Rhino badge challenge that was created to continue raising funds for the conservation project.



# Having Fun

## Sections

As always, the County organised special events throughout the year for all of the sections to take part in.

One of the events, the Rainbow Fun Day, allows girls to experience new activities and make new friends. The theme for this year's Rainbow Fun Day was 'Under the Sea' and it was attended by 300 Rainbows, all of whom enjoyed making fish-sock puppets, preparing a healthy snack, playing fishy magnetic games and listening to an interactive story. The Rainbows even had a surprise visit from 'King Neptune'.

Over 500 Brownies took part in the Margaret Williams Brownie Competition. The day's activities had a mixture of themes including space, pirates, jungle, Christmas and many more. The rain failed to dampen the enthusiasm as the girls raced around Ferny Crofts, trying to complete as many challenges as possible. Well done to 1st Marchwood Brownies who won the competition.



Sixers and Seconds are potential leaders of the future, and our annual Sixer and Second Day is designed to help them develop leadership, team-building and decision-making skills.

This year over 100 Brownies took part in our Sixer and Second Day, and they all learned a lot whilst having fun at the same time!

Guides from all over the County attended the Baden Powell Adventure Weekends - the ultimate challenge when completing the highest award that Guides can earn. The themes for the weekends included a murder mystery game and a conservation project at the New Forest Wildlife Park.

The Senior Section took part in an Activity Day of Adventure that gave them the opportunity to enhance their self confidence and make new friends. They enjoyed team building games whilst canoeing, riding quad bikes over fields, aiming air rifles on a range and flying through the air on a zip wire.

# Divisions

Many exciting things have been happening in the Divisions around the County - as always there are far too many to list in full so here are just a few of the highlights.

**Chandlers Ford** Brownies tried their hands at both traditional and unusual sports including kneel-boarding, sumo wrestling, carting and playing hubaluba during a 4Sports Challenge Day while the Guides took part in a netball competition.

**Eastleigh** Brownies and Guides worked on the Together We Can resource and took part in the World Marathon Challenge raising nearly £400 for Save the Children.

Over 200 girls from **Hurst Castle** celebrated Thinking Day with activities based on the four World Centres.

**Romsey** gave the girls the opportunity to sleep rough in Romsey Abbey's South Garth and to raise money for the homeless. This was a joint event with the Scouts and provided an insight into what it is like to sleep in a cardboard box.

**Southampton Central** 11th Shirley Brownies enjoyed an end of term party at Ringos, Alpine Centre, Southampton. It was great fun, with one of the Brownies shouting 'This is AWESOME' as she zoomed down the slope.



In **Itchen Valley**, girls of all ages enjoyed camps and holidays in various locations including the Isle of Wight, London and Wiltshire. Some of the highlights included the Brownies sleepover at the Science Museum, the Guides festival experience at 'Wellies and Wristbands' and the Rangers staying at the World Centre, Pax Lodge, in London.

The **New Forest Avon** Brownies all took their designer badge and enjoyed designing bin bag dresses and futuristic gadgets for the elderly - including rocket propelled Zimmer frames!

**New Forest North** saw the opening of a new Rainbow unit (Ashurst Rainbows) and a new Guide unit (Calmore Guides). Both units are already thriving and looking forward to listing some of their activities in next year's report.

Girls from all the sections in **New Forest Waterside** enjoyed an Alice in Wonderland themed activity day followed by a BBQ and campfire.



**Southampton East** Division Leaders took the girls on a two night trip to PGL on the Isle of Wight where they enjoyed many adventurous activities - even a Trefoil Guild member of 70 years of age enjoyed canoeing and kayaking.

**Southampton Itchen** Rangers hosted a BBQ at Victoria Park for a few Guide units.

The leaders of **Southampton West** learnt new skills at a Come and Try Something evening, the aim being to promote good guiding.

The South Wonston Guides from **Winchester** visited Our Chalet in Switzerland, some of the older members of the party having now visited all four World Centres.

## Growing Guiding

In 2013 we launched Hampshire West's Growing Guiding Strategy, which aims to increase the membership of Hampshire West by 6% by March 2016. We have already seen a large increase in the number of Rainbows (up by 15%) and it is also good to see we have welcomed over 40 new adult members (a 3% increase). We will hopefully see new Brownies join us in 2014 with the Big Brownie Birthday raising the profile of the section in particular and Guiding in general.

## Marketing and Communication

Our new-look website went live in June. The site is packed with useful information for anyone who is thinking about getting involved in guiding in Hampshire West and is a useful tool for our members to find relevant information. We have also set up Facebook and Twitter pages and our members are beginning to use social media to communicate with Leaders in different parts of the County.

## Learning and Development

During the past year we have offered our adult volunteers a range of learning and development opportunities. These help the volunteers to deliver better programme experiences for the girls whilst enabling them to widen their own horizons and acquire new skills and confidence along the way.

It is one of the fundamentals of good guiding that Leaders attend at least one relevant Leader event each year. We were therefore delighted that over 120 Leaders and Young Leaders took part in the different events on offer during the Training Week held in November.

The Leaders valued the opportunity to share experiences and find out about new and existing resources and left with fresh ideas to take back to their units.

The First Response and Safe Space training sessions have been particularly well supported. We are grateful to our teams of experienced trainers, mentors and advisers who have helped 49 members gain their leadership qualification and residential qualifications and supported new Commissioners.



## Young Leaders

We are lucky in Hampshire West to have so many Young Leaders working in units across the County – adding energy and enthusiasm to our programme. This year, 10 girls have completed the Young Leader Qualification (YLQ) and 21 more attended the YLQ training day in November. Many of our older Young Leaders are embarking on the modules for the Adult Leader Qualification and we were delighted to see several of these at sessions in Training Week.

## Queen's Guide

This year three young women completed the Queen's Guide, the highest award in Guiding: Hannah Watts, Vanessa Ellis and Emma Treadwell. They celebrated their achievement with their units in their local areas. Hampshire West continues to be one of the most active Counties in the Region for the award. Some Queen's Guides who are working on the award attended Innovate in Cardiff, a National initiative, and took part in discussions on the future of Girlguiding.



## International

Several girls from around the County were selected to join Region trips to Belgium, Borneo and a GOLD trip to Armenia. Rebecca Simmons's personal highlight was the mountain trek up Kinabalu, a height of 4095m, in Borneo. She says, 'It was no doubt one of the hardest things I have ever done, but the sense of achievement was well worth all the effort and aching legs!' Units have also visited two of the World Centres, Sangam and Our Chalet.



# Awards

Judging by the number of awards that have been presented this year, Guiding is clearly an organisation that women are proud to be a part of and want to stay involved in for many years.

## The Guiding Star

Olivia Brooker

## Laurel Award

Janet Parker

## County Good Service

Vivienne Franklin

Elaine Kendall

## County Thanks Badge

Janet Bradford

Emma Cooper

Janet Parker

Jackie Paulson

## Hampshire Rose

Jackie Abery

Linda Brown

Corinne Evans

Hilary Everard

Jean Lawford

Josephine Morgan

Kathleen Robinson

Frances Saunders

Ann Sherwin

## 30 year Long Service

Linda Brown

Corinne Evans

Ann Gerrard

Ann Humby

Denise Farmer

Julie-Ann Holtham

Gill Lacey

Caroline Lloyd

Janice Mardle

Josephine Morgan

Alison Noyce

Kathleen Robinson

Frances Saunders

Rosie Tidby

Lynn Willrich

## 50 year Long Service

Ruth Jackson

Janice Pattison

Sue Simpkins

Pat Tarry

Joan Veal

## Queen's Guide

Vanessa Ellis

Hannah Watts

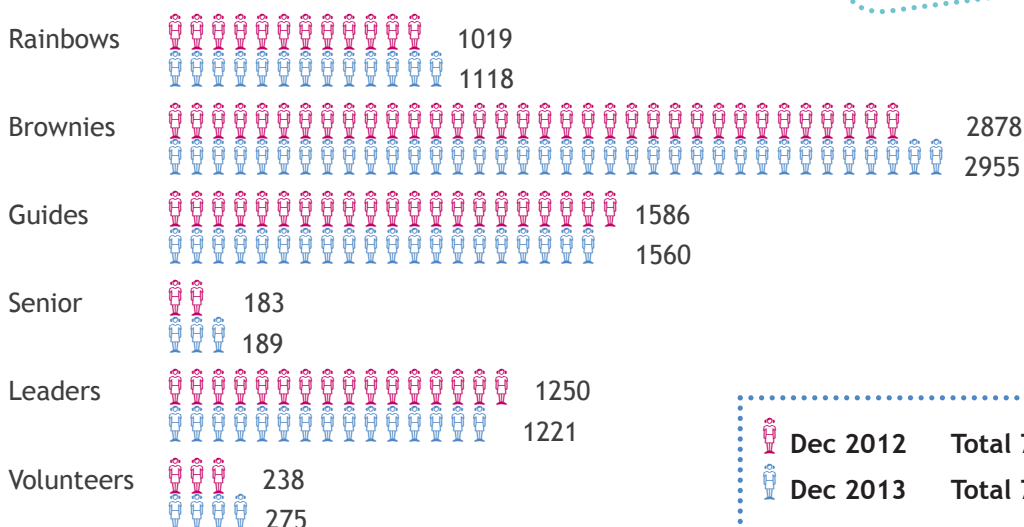
Emma Treadwell

The Duke of Edinburgh award gives young people aged 14-24 the opportunity to develop life skills and eight girls from the County completed the bronze award.

Last year we launched a new Award in our County, the Courage Award, to recognise the selflessness of giving to others by showing great initiative or responsibility at an incident, overcoming personal problems or showing great commitment to others over a period of time. The award is given to any member in uniform from the age of 5 and over.



## Membership figures



# Finance

## Income 2012/13



Membership subscriptions	£40655.00	(10.7%)
Equipment income	£0.00	(0.0%)
Donations & grants	£1050.00	(0.3%)
Investment income	£685.91	(0.2%)
County events	£167847.29	(44.3%)
Separate accounts income	£14111.58	(3.7%)
Flame	£154809.34	(40.8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£379159.12</b>	

## Expenditure 2012/13



Membership subscriptions	£2891.00	(0.7%)
Donations & income	£10989.95	(2.6%)
Depreciation	£344.03	(0.1%)
County support costs	£12878.03	(3.0%)
County events	£202973.74	(48.2%)
Separate accounts expenditure	£9877.66	(2.3%)
Flame	£181532.53	(43.1%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£421486.94</b>	

## Thanks

I thank each and every volunteer in Hampshire West who gives up their time to bring adventure and fantastic experiences to the girls who want to be a part of our wonderful organisation. I am also indebted to the County teams who support me in administration, Finance, Outdoor, Learning and Development, Marketing and Communications, programme planning and Go! and Join Us.

My thanks also go to the Trefoil Guild and Friends of Guiding who support Guiding both in units and at large events. And not forgetting our friends and families.

I look forward to celebrating the Big Brownie Birthday with you all in 2014 and I know that lots of wonderful memories and unforgettable Guiding experiences are going to be created.

**Anne**  
**County Commissioner**

If you are not already involved in Guiding in Hampshire West and would like to discover for yourself what it is that attracts girls to the largest organisation for girls and young women, go to [www.girlguidinghantswest.org.uk](http://www.girlguidinghantswest.org.uk) to register your interest.

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